

Docket No : 28944/50045  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

---

In re Patent Application of:  
Hassan Zahouani et al.

Application No.: 10/598,445

Confirmation No.: 5275

Filed: August 30, 2006

Art Unit: To be assigned

For: Triboacoustic Probe

Examiner: To be assigned

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits as far as is known to the undersigned (37 CFR 1.97(b)(3)).

Copies of the foreign patents and non patent literature documents listed on the PTO/SB/08 are attached. In lieu of English translations, English abstracts are enclosed for French application no. FR 2811764 and German application no. DE 10164044. The international search report PCT/FR2005/000526 corresponds to FR 04 02283 (not enclosed).

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR

Application No.: 10/598,445

Docket No.: 28944/50045

1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

Dated: December 6, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Thomas A. Miller

Registration No.: 40,091

MILLER, MATTHIAS & HULL

One North Franklin Street

Suite 2350

Chicago, Illinois 60606

(312) 977-9902

Attorney for Applicant

Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (Use as many sheets as necessary)				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
				Application Number	10/598,445
				Filing Date	August 30, 2006
				First Named Inventor	Hassan Zahouani et al.
				Art Unit	To be assigned
				Examiner Name	To be assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	28944/50045

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		4,364,035	12-14-1982	Kirsch	
		4,390,873	06-28-1983	Kirsch	
		5,679,883	10-21-1997	Wedeven	
		5,852,232	12-22-1998	Samsavar et al.	
		2002/0173223-A1	11-21-2002	Gitis et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>5</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
		FR 28 11764	01-18-2002	Asserin Jerome Henri		
		DE 10 164044	07-03-2003	Willers Christian (DE)		

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials	Cite No <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book magazine journal serial symposium catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s) publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>	
		"Biomedical micro-tribometer application for skin studies (both in vivo and in-vitro)", <a href="http://www.cetr.com/skin_testing.html">www.cetr.com/skin_testing.html</a> , XP002293582, 12 pages, (August 23, 2003).		
		Patton, et al., "Advanced tribometer for <i>in situ</i> studies of friction, wear and contact condition-Advanced tribometer for friction and wear studies", Tribology Letters, vol 13, no. 4 pages 263-273, (2002).		
		Lyon, "The Optical Mouse, and an Architectural Methodology for Smart Digital Sensors", VSL-81-1 Xerox Palo Alto Research Center, 19 pages, (August 1981).		
		French Preliminary Search Report FR 0402283; report dated August 24, 2004.		
		International Search Report PCT/FR2005/000526; report dated August 3, 2005.		

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional) <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--